## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

A smoothing processor of image data comprising:
 a data obtaining unit which obtains the image data
including a plurality of unit image data arranged in time series;

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a determining unit which determines a difference between object unit image data which is subjected to processing and preceding unit image data which is immediately before the object unit image data and a difference between the object unit image data and subsequent unit image data which is immediately after the object unit image data, for a plurality of blocks constituting the unit image data; and

a smoothing unit which executes smoothing by utilizing the object unit image data and one of the preceding unit image data and the subsequent unit image data having a smaller difference, based on a determination result by the determining unit.

 $\hbox{2.} \quad \hbox{The smoothing processor of the image data according} \\ \hbox{20} \quad \hbox{to claim 1, wherein the determining unit comprises:}$ 

a unit which determines whether or not the differences are equal to or larger than a predetermined value for each block; and

a unit which determines one of the preceding unit image data and the subsequent unit image data including less blocks whose difference is equal to or larger than the predetermined value, as the unit image data having smaller difference.

3. The smoothing processor of the image data according to claim 2, wherein the smoothing unit executes smoothing by utilizing the object unit image data and the unit image data having smaller difference for the block whose difference is smaller than the predetermined value, and executes smoothing by utilizing only the object unit image data for the block whose

difference is equal to or larger than the predetermined value.

- 4. A smoothing processing method of image data comprising:
- a data obtaining process which obtains image data including a plurality of unit image data arranged in time series;

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- a determining process which determines a difference between object unit image data which is subjected to processing and preceding unit image data which is immediately before the object unit image data and a difference between the object unit image data and subsequent unit image data which is immediately after the object unit image data, for a plurality of blocks constituting the unit image data; and
- a smoothing process which executes smoothing by utilizing the object unit image data and one of the preceding unit image data and the subsequent unit image data having smaller difference, based on a determination result by the determining process.
- 5. A smoothing processing program of image data, to be executed by a computer, which controls the computer to function as:

a data obtaining unit which obtains image data including a plurality of unit image data arranged in time series;

a determining unit which determines a difference between object unit image data subjected to processing and preceding unit image data which is immediately before the object unit image data, and a difference between the object unit image data and subsequent unit image data which is immediately after the object unit image data, for a plurality of blocks constituting the object unit image data; and

a smoothing unit which executes smoothing by utilizing the object unit image data and one of the preceding unit image data and the subsequent unit image data having smaller difference,

based on a determination result by the determining unit.